

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace Paragraph 24 on page 5 with the following replacement paragraph:

[0024] Another reason for the high latency is the bandwidth allocation map (MAP) lead time. CMTS 102 sends bandwidth grants downstream to cable modem 104 a certain amount of time before the bandwidth is to be used. This ensures that the grants will not arrive too late for cable modem 104 to make use of them. The amount of lead time is often configurable, and can range from less than one millisecond to more than ten milliseconds.